Money in lieu of SNP in Anganwadi Centres

*448. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to provide money in lieu of Special Nutrition Programme (SNP) in Anganwadi Centres;

(b) whether Government have asked the Anganwadi Workers to open bank accounts alongwith President/Secretary of Mothers' Committee;

(c) whether the new scheme has already been implemented in a few States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Some States have decentralized procurement and distribution of supplementary nutrition under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme through local committee constituted at the village level. Under the system, funds for supplementary nutrition are transferred to the Bank account of Anganwadi Centres, operated jointly by Anganwadi Worker/members of Mothers' Committee etc.

(c) and (d) In view of (a) above, the questions do not arise.

Reduction in allocations for universities

*449. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has reduced allocations for universities with a high percentage of minority students;

(b) whether it is a fact that UGC has not adopted a fair approach towards religious minorities;

(c) what steps have been taken to ensure that the UGC functions well;

(d) whether only one or two castes are benefiting from all fund allocations of UGC in the year 2005-06 and the current year; and